



Kilbarchan Parish Church

Your local church magazine

Dear Friends,

On Monday 16th May I stood on the first tee of Kilmacolm Golf Club. A golfing challenge match between the kirks of Kilbarchan, Houston and Killellan, Bridge of Weir and Kilmacolm had been arranged. The format was Texas Scramble. We were in teams of four. Now for those who don't know, it means that everyone plays the first shot and then you choose the best ball, mark it, and everyone hits their second shot from there and so on. It is good fun.

I'd like to be able to say the sun shone and Kilbarchan won. I can't. It poured all day and we finished second. But it was great fun and if you're soaked through on the first tee you may as well keep going as it won't get much worse.

My first shot, my drive on the 1st hole was nothing to right home about. I settled over the ball, I swung far too quickly, my head rose too soon and I topped the ball and somehow only moved it a couple of feet. It was a bit embarrassing, but what could I expect. It was only my second round this year and I had only played once in 2021.

But, I soon got into the swing of things, if you'll pardon the pun. My game recovered, I felt I was able to contribute to the work of the team and I'm keen to play again.

In church life as in society and life, things are 'getting back to normal' and we are encouraged to use 'Covid sense'. Numbers at worship though still down, are climbing back to where they were before Covid. I have celebrated two baptisms this year and to date one wedding.

As we continue to return to normal I want to encourage you to continue to play your part in the life and work of Kilbarchan Church and encourage others to get involved too

Your friend and minister

Stephen



FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks once again to all my contributors for making my job so much easier by getting all their articles in on time and by e-mail. When I first started this job 28 years ago all the articles came to me handwritten and then had to be typed up. This was in the dark ages of 'cut and paste!' Now it is so much easier.

I hope you found something of interest within these pages. Articles for the next issue should be in my hands by 20th August at the latest. Remember this is YOUR magazine so feel free to submit anything you think will be of interest

Hope you all have a good summer and manage to get out and about a bit more than was possible in the last two years.

Alastair



EASTER MORNING AT THE WEAVER'S COTAGE



Ready for our 'roll and sausage' after an early start!

KIRK SESSION REPORT

It has been encouraging to see an increasing number of the congregation returning to our Sunday services and to know that there are many more who worship with us on the livestream or at a time convenient to them during the week. Following the early morning service at the Weavers' cottage on Easter Sunday, we were pleased to admit Mrs Isobel Arnott to our Kirk Session during morning worship. Also at that service, the four newest elders (Elizabeth Crawley, Arlene MacKay, Tony Martin, and Alison Renfrew) who had been ordained by Zoom in October 2020, were formally introduced to the congregation, and welcomed into Session.

The Sacrament of Baptism has been celebrated twice as on Sunday 10 April we welcomed Evan Wilkie Graham to our Church family and then on Sunday 22 May, Miley Kapaya was baptised.

Sadly, three of our members have died during the last few months and this means we now have 368 members on the Church roll.

The AMBA audit of our Church buildings was carried out on 10 March with the results of this being taken into consideration, along with our previously submitted Mission Audit, by Clyde Presbytery who are seeking to determine the number of necessary church buildings and allocation of reduced ministry numbers that will provide effective ministry and mission for Clyde Presbytery for the future.

A significant amount of time has been spent on providing information to all our members about the proposal to adopt the unitary constitution. A meeting of the Congregation took place after morning worship on Sunday 8 May when the reasons for, and implications of, this proposal were explained by Stephen. The congregation voted 72 in favour and 6 against adopting the Unitary Constitution. This decision has now been notified to Clyde Presbytery and if approved by them, will then be passed to the Delegation of Assembly for their consideration.

Approval was given at our May meeting to the appointment of Ian Keith as our representative at Presbytery for the coming year. We are very grateful to him for continuing in this role.

As the covid restrictions have been relaxed, the guidance we have received from the Church of Scotland has been altered from being legal to advisory with a recommendation that a "nuanced" approach would be required to cater for everyone's opinions and preferences. Following some discussion, it was decided to designate one area of the Church to be a space where those who wished to continue wear a mask and not be too close to others could occupy. Others attending worship could choose whether or not to wear a mask in the rest of the Church. This will be reviewed regularly in the next few months.

Christine, Alasdair and Helen

Clyde Presbytery Conference, 5th March 2022 @ Lyle Kirk, Greenock

Every congregation in the Presbytery area was invited to send a maximum of 3 representatives to the conference. Ian Keith and Alasdair Law attended as representatives of Kilbarchan Parish Church. Stephen Smith was able to view the presentations remotely.

Presbytery Conference Presentations can be viewed at:

<https://youtu.be/Nw0EgJXBVao>

PLEASE NOTE: timings are approximate and may depend on the viewing device.

- a. **Opening worship: Alastair Shaw, Presbytery Moderator: 0 - 16 mins**
(following a welcome from Jonathan Fleming, minister of the Lyle Kirk and Convenor of the Clyde Mission Plan Task Group).
- b. **Presentations by Martin Fair and Mike Goss: 16 - 32 mins**
both are members of the national Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group, PMPIG. They outlined the background to the initiative and stressed the need for an urgent, fundamental re-assessment of how the church operates, due to the combined impact of declining membership, fewer ministers and the pressure on finances.
- c. **Robert Kinloch - Giving to Grow: 34 - 52 mins**
Convenor of Stewardship and Finance, explained the reasons for changing from the Ministries and Mission Contribution to the new system Giving to Grow. The conference was also shown some worked examples as to how the system would be applied to church finances.
- d. **Presentation by Jonathan Fleming: 53 - 59 mins**
In which he described the concept of Local Mission Churches. The national Mission Plan envisages a reduction in ministries within Clyde Presbytery from 60 to 40. This could be achieved in a variety of ways – unions, linkages, hubs, greater use of non-ordained worship leaders and by Local Mission Churches (LMCs).
Jonathan explained that an LMC exists within another charge. It has no Kirk Session, but is the responsibility of the KS of its parent charge. It has a leadership team which is responsible for co-ordinating the life and witness of the church. This team includes one or more representatives of Presbytery and the parent Kirk Session.
- e. **Andy Reid, Clyde Presbytery's Mission Officer: 1h 1 min - 1h 37 mins**

gave a lengthy presentation on what he saw as Mission, stressing the urgent need for a radical review of all that we do – to think about WHO we are trying to reach, as well WHAT and HOW. He talked about the need for ADAPTIVE change and described a pilot project in Ferguslie Park, based in a drop-in centre, with a Pioneer Minister.

Following the presentations, attendees split into their local area groupings to discuss how their area might support the development of the Presbytery Mission Plan. There was an obvious willingness amongst group members to work together and seek out opportunities for greater collaboration. It is intended that local area groups meet again to progress their initial discussions.

We anticipate that the Presbytery Mission Plan will be considered at the June meeting of Presbytery and we shall have an opportunity to review and comment on it at that time.



KILBARCHAN KIRK ONLINE

kilbarchankirk.org

Find us on:

Facebook - facebook.com/kilbarchankirk

Twitter – @KilbarchanKirk

YouTube – Kilbarchan Kirk

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Politicians and medical experts now tell us that Covid restrictions are being relaxed. Rigid regulations no longer apply. Recommendations from the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland tell us that mask wearing and social distancing are no longer obligatory and we should decide amongst ourselves the levels of protection we apply. This will be applied in Kilbarchan Parish Church in the next few weeks and the congregation will be able to wear masks or not, and sit closer to their neighbours if they wish. Of course, if you would be happier sitting a little further apart from the others you just have to mention this to the steward at the door and you will be accommodated.

Another benefit of relaxation of Covid restrictions is that we can now get tradesmen to do outstanding work. The doors at the pulpit end of the Sanctuary have now been fixed and fitted with new hardware which allows them to be opened easily. So they can now be used as an additional exit route in an emergency.

The reintroduction of teas and coffees after the Sunday morning service has been very successful as is the restart of Wednesday morning fellowship. These and all the other activities in the Halls seem to be getting on well with participants enjoying themselves while being sensible about Covid precautions.

With more events being held in the Halls I feel I must point out that the Church of Scotland website reminds us that everyone who bakes at home on behalf of their congregation must be provided with suitable training in food safety and hygiene. To this end the General Trustees are offering free access to an Introduction to Food Hygiene course by e-learning and congregations are encouraged to enrol home bakers on this course. If it is anything like the course, I took at Reid Kerr many years ago it will not be onerous. If anyone feels they would be happy to participate in this, please let me know and I will arrange it.

Tony Martin



A GOOD AND LOVING FATHER

Almighty Father help me to be a good and loving Dad,
That my dear children may enjoy the Blessing I have had.
Give me the Blessing I should use to teach them right from wrong,
And how to keep on going when the road is rough and long,
To do the duty that is theirs until the very end.
To look for lasting beauty and appreciate a friend.
Endow me with the Grace I need, to mould their gentle touch,
According to the measurements of loyalty and truth.
Enable me to comfort them, whenever they are sad,
And O My Father grant that they, "Will always love their Dad."



PROPERTY MATTERS

After the hiatus of COVID, a number of outstanding works have been completed over the past six months. The installation of broadband in the church allowed us to also install cameras and equipment to record and livestream our services. This has been up and running for a few months now and thanks are due to the volunteers who manage the system.

The hall and stage floors have been repaired and re-varnished and are looking the part.

The external doors on either side of the pulpit have been fitted with easy to use exit bars.

Finally, much later than wished, pews numbers 9 and 10 have been altered to improve wheelchair and pram access to the sanctuary. My thanks go to Iain and Margaret Gibb for the excellent work in redesigning the pews and cushions.

Thanks also go to the unsung volunteers who carry out a variety of jobs around our buildings, including maintaining the flower beds and the grass around the church.

Malcolm MacAskill

Property Convener



THE GUILD

Despite Covid restrictions and cancelled meetings we have had a successful year. We are fortunate in having a loyal and generous membership and this has allowed to pay speakers' expenses, donate £300.00 to the church and with the extra funds raised at our Martha's Table event (bring and buy sale) we were in a position to make a donation of £200.00 to our 2021/22 Guild Project 'Home for Good'..



We are at present drawing up our Syllabus for 2022/3 and hopefully it will be as interesting as this year.

Jan Howitt

p.s. The Guild have been asked to clear out some old crockery. If you can use any china saucers and plates to put under plants pots etc. just ask!!!!

COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS – WHERE TO GET HELP

Most households will already be feeling the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. It will present a huge challenge for so many in our local community, and elsewhere, in the months ahead.

Below we identify some sources of information that may be useful not only to our congregation but also to extended family, friends and the broader community.

Here are some of the key organisations which can provide help and specialist advice.

1. Advice Works Renfrewshire- a free, confidential service which provides expert advice on a wide range of money and debt issues including budgeting, negotiating with creditors, bankruptcy, mortgage and rent arrears. Benefit checks are also undertaken to ensure that you are getting all the benefits to which you are entitled. Full information is available at renfrewshire.gov.uk under Advice Works Renfrewshire.

Call to make an appointment with an Advice Works advisor on 0300 300 1238 or alternatively email adviceworks@renfrewshire.gov.uk.

2. Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau- their trained advisers have vast experience and provide practical, independent advice on a wide range of topics including debt and money, benefits, housing, energy and work-related issues.

Full information is available at renfrewshirecab.org.uk. Call 0141 889 2121 to arrange an appointment

3. Renfrewshire foodbank- provides support to anyone in Renfrewshire at a time of crisis. Nutritious food parcels are provided for 3 days to individuals and families who are in need. This is a short-term service designed to help people get back on their feet and be able to self-manage their own situation. The foodbank also has access to specialist staff who can provide advice on maximizing income.

Full information is available at renfrewshire.foodbank.org.uk.

You can contact the Foodbank on 0300 102 2500 or on email at info@renfrewshire.foodbank.org.uk

4. Home Energy Scotland- is a Scottish Government initiative to help create warmer homes, reduce energy bills, and lower your carbon footprint. Energy costs will rise very significantly over this year and Home Energy Scotland want to ensure that people are not overpaying on their energy bills. They can check your eligibility for special discounts from energy suppliers and help you get a benefits and tax credit check so you're not missing out on additional income. In some cases, funding can be accessed to help your home's energy efficiency.

Contact Home Energy Scotland through the contact form page at homeenergyscotland.org.

The website includes useful tips for saving money on energy costs around the home. Alternatively call free on 0808 808 2282.

5.Shelter Scotland- doesn't provide houses but it does provide advice on any housing issue from home ownership to homelessness.

This includes renting privately, social housing, finding a place to live, paying for a home, rent and mortgage arrears, eviction, repossession, and repairs and bad conditions.

The Shelter Scotland advice helpline is the best way to find out your rights and access immediate, practical advice. Call 0808 800 4444. A wealth of information is also available at scotland.shelter.org.uk

6.Christians against Poverty- is a UK-wide charity that can assist if you need help with money, whether that's help to get out of debt, find a job or gain vital life skills.

For free debt help call 0800 328 0006. Full information can be found at capuk.org.

7.Age Scotland- is the national charity for people over 50 and their helpline provides a free confidential service for older people, their carers and families. Their skilled advisers can offer support on various cost of living issues. They are also there for you if you just need a friendly chat.

Call the Helpline on 0800 1244 222 or check out agescotland.co.uk



FAIRTRADE



Thanks to everybody who supported the stall supplied by the Rainbow Turtle shop in Paisley. We sold over £150 worth of goods . Thank you to the Rainbow Turtle shop for supplying the stock. It's

worthwhile visiting the Rainbow Turtle shop, not only food and gifts but also Eco friendly kitchen supplies, Don't forget you can also buy Fairtrade coffees, teas, chocolate and wines at our local Co-op,

Moira Stark



FUND-RAISING NEWS.

The Easter Extravaganza was a great success, raising almost £600 for church funds. I am pleased to let you know that “Art Off the Square” will return after an absence of 2 years from Thursday-Saturday 25-27 August, thanks to Myra and George Grant. We shall be looking for volunteers to help in the tearoom and, of course, provide the baking which has always been very much appreciated by the many visitors who have attended in the past and hopefully will again this year. Entrance will remain £3



TOTS' CLUB.

We were delighted to resume on 9th May with a good number of children and accompanying adults, all delighted to be back. It's good to get to know a whole new generation of babies! The children are also able to enjoy “dancing” along to music with Fiona on her keyboard. We have already had a visit from Andy Stark to take photos of the children. You will be made most welcome if you wish to drop in for coffee any Monday morning. . Our Summer Party will be held on Monday 27th June at 9.45am. We resume after the summer break on Monday 29th August.

We are pleased to welcome Rosemary to our group and would be very happy to have a few more volunteers next session, willing to help out every few weeks on a Monday morning from 9-11.30am. Please speak to any of the following people if you'd like to come along and help. The Tots' club is very much an outreach group in the community so an important part of our church mission.

Elizabeth and Fulton Dunn, Alison and Ian Keith, Rosemary Clark, Christine Erwin, Margaret Allan, Cathy Millar, Myra Grant, , Rosie Picken, Jenifer Pitchers, Fiona Stewart and Malcolm MacAskill.

TEN LITTLE CHURCHMEN

Ten little Churchmen went to Church when fine,
But it started raining, then there were nine,
Nine little Churchmen stayed up very late
One overslept himself, and then there were eight.
Eight little Churchmen on the road to Heaven
One joined a rambling club and then there were seven.
Seven little Churchmen heard of Sunday ‘ flicks’
One thought he’d like to go, then there were six.
Six little Churchmen kept the place alive,
One bought a TV, then there were five.
Five little Churchmen seemed loyal to the core
The Rector upset one of them, and then there were four
Four little Churchmen argued heatedly
Over ceremonial, then there were three.
Three little Churchmen sang the service through
Got a hymn they didn’t know, then there were two.
Two little Churchmen disputed who should run
The next Parish Social, then there was one.
One loyal Churchman, knowing what to do
Got a friend to come to Church, then there were two.
Two sincere Churchmen each brought one more,
So their number doubled, then there were four.
Four sturdy Churchmen simply couldn’t wait
Till they got four others, then there were eight.
Eight eager Churchmen at Communion every week
Soon encouraged others, troubled souls to seek.
All the seats in the Church were filled —. not an empty pew
O God, supply this grace and zeal in our Parish too



A father was at the beach with his children when the four year old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. ‘Daddy, what happened to him?’ the son asked. ‘He died and went to Heaven,’ the Dad replied. The boy thought for a moment then asked, ‘Did God throw him back down?’

HOLY ALPHABET

Although things are not perfect,
Because of trials or pain,
Continue in thanksgiving,
Do not begin to blame.
Even when the times are hard,
Fierce winds are bound to blow,
God is forever able,
Hcld on to what you know.
Imagine life without his love
Joy would cease to be
Keep thanking him for all the gifts
Love imparts to thee,
Move out of “Camp Complaining”
No weapon that is known
On earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone.
Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand
Sart every day with worship
To “thank” is a command.
Until we see him-coming
Victorious in the sky
We’ll run the race with gratitude
Xalting God most high.
Yes, there’ll be good times and yes some will be bad but
Zion waits in glory.., where none are ever sad!

THE LONG AND THE SHORT BIBLE FACTS .

1. The longest chapter is Psalm 119.
2. The shortest chapter is Psalm 117.
3. The longest verse is Esther chapter 8 verse 9.
- 4 The shortest is John chapter 1 1 verse 35.
- 5 The longest chapter in the New Testament is Luke 1.
- 6 The shortest chapter in the New Testament is 1 John 1.
- 7 The longest Gospel is St. Luke with 1161 verses.
- 8 The shortest Gospel is St. Mark with 678 verses.
- 9 The longest Epistle is Romans with 433 verses.
10. The shortest Epistle is 2 John with 13 verses.



1st KILBARCHAN BOYS' BRIGADE

Our Boys' Brigade Company is looking for adult volunteers to become leaders in our Anchor Boy Section (Primary 1-3) starting in August 2022.

If we can get 2 people who are willing to undertake training, we will be able to restart our Company again with an Anchor Boy Section in Kilbarchan. Please contact me at

1stkilbarchanbb@gmail.com

Robert Stevenson



"The Church Eco Group is delighted to report the success of our recent Eco Forum on Wednesday 4th May. The event attracted 45 attendees and we were treated to two interesting speakers and some stimulating discussion around the presentations. Although most of those attending have an existing church connection, we were particularly encouraged to note representatives from a number of local community and business groups:

Kilbarchan Primary School; Kilbarchan Smile; Renewable Heating Specialist; Waste Management Manager from Enva (previously William Tracey); Lochwinnoch Larder; Lochavor (refillable food containers); clothes remodeller etc.

In addition, we gathered some interesting ideas and contact details from those who attended which we will discuss and consider how best to take forward at our next Eco Group meeting later this month.

The Group wishes to thank Stephen and all those who attended and supported the event in any way. We are now looking to expand membership of the Group in order to progress our ambition to achieve the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards as detailed by the Eco Congregation Scotland Environmental Toolkit. In addition we intend to hold a follow up Eco Forum event in the Autumn-details to follow, watch this space"

Isobel (Arnott)



Christian Aid Week (15th-21st May 2022)

For this year's Christian Aid Week appeal we operated a delivery-only system of envelopes throughout Kilbarchan and Brookfield, asking folks to return their envelopes to the church hall, to the offices of Brookfield Alarms, or to donate electronically via the JustGiving page on our website.

The additional fundraising event, an illustrated talk on Scotland's hills and mountains was well attended, particularly given the competing attractions of televised football, and raised some **£315**.

Not all donation envelopes had been received and counted at the time of going to press, but it seems likely that the total raised will be in the excess of **£3,000**.

We are most grateful to all who contributed, particularly given the other pressures on budgets at this time.

This work is vital to support the efforts of Christian Aid to help those in need in some of the poorest communities in the world, and to campaign for real change which will remove the inequalities which blight the lives of so many.

None of this can be achieved without the efforts of many volunteers who give of their time to distribute envelopes and count the donations. We owe them a great deal of gratitude.



ART
off the SQUARE

2022

THURSDAY **25th** AUGUST - 2pm until 9pm

FRIDAY **26th** AUGUST - 2pm until 9pm

SATURDAY **27th** AUGUST - 10am until 4pm



eco
congregation
Scotland



HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DECOMPOSE?

PAPER TOWEL - 2-4 WEEKS

BANANA PEEL - 3-4 WEEKS

PAPER BAG - 1 MONTH

NEWSPAPER - 1.5 MONTHS

APPLE CORE - 2 MONTHS

CARDBOARD - 2 MONTHS

COTTON GLOVE - 3 MONTHS

ORANGE PEELS - 6 MONTHS

PLYWOOD - 1-3 YEARS

WOOL SOCK - 1-5 YEARS

MILK CARTONS - 5 YEARS

CIGARETTE BUTTS - 10-12 YEARS

LEATHER SHOES - 25-40 YEARS

TINNED STEEL CAN - 50 YEARS

FOAMED PLASTIC CUPS - 50 YEARS

RUBBER-BOOT SOLE - 50-80 YEARS

PLASTIC CONTAINERS - 50-80 YEARS

ALUMINUM CAN - 200-500 YEARS

PLASTIC BOTTLES - 450 YEARS

DISPOSABLE DIAPERS - 550 YEARS

MONOFILAMENT FISHING LINE - 600 YEARS

PLASTIC BAGS - 200-1000 YEARS.

PLEASE SUPPORT A GREEN ENVIRONMENT.

Kilbarchan Parish Church Hillwalking Club



The good weather ordered in the last magazine eluded the hillwalking club in March, but eight of us braved mist with horizontal hail, snow and rain to be nearly blown off the summit of Tinto, a Graham near Biggar. However, we found a dry spell and sheltered spot for elevenses, when the sun almost broke through to make a rainbow.

Our overdue good weather finally arrived in April. Seven of us, with an average age close to 70, climbed Corserine (Corbett) and Carlin's Cairn (Donald) in the Southern Uplands. It was cold but bright and dry with excellent views - a really lovely day.

In April we also held our AGM, delayed from last December, when we compiled our programme of walks for the rest of 2022. We also presented gifts and lots of thanks to Margaret Beattie. Margaret has been organising the club for over 30 years, producing every syllabus since 1989. Having completed the Donalds last year and with the Grahams, Corbetts and Munros already under her belt, she's now retiring from that role and we're all very thankful for her efforts with the syllabi, articles, walks and weekends away she's coordinated over the decades. Thank you, Margaret, you're an inspiration!

Our upcoming walks will be:

21st May: Glen Sherup Horseshoe (Donalds)

18th June: Beinn Dearg & Cam Creag, Glen Lyon (Corbetts)

or Kaim Hill, Fairlie

9th July: Binnein More, Binnein Beag & Na Gruagachan, Mamores (Munros)*

or Balloch to Dumbarton

6th August: Carn a'Chlamain (Munro)

or Arrochar Loop

For all walks we will meet at the Steeple at 8am (except * at 7am). Any new members would be very welcome on these or any subsequent walks. Please contact me on 07866656405 if you would like any information.

Eilidh Henderson



A smile is the lighting system of the face and the heating system of the heart

JUNIOR CHURCH

Junior Church reconvened on Sunday March 13th on a fortnightly basis. After a two years hiatus, courtesy of Covid, it was lovely to welcome our children back. On our first week back we discussed prayer and we made prayer rocks to remind us to speak to God on a daily basis. For Mothering Sunday, the children learnt how this tradition came to be and made cards and decorated trinket boxes to give to their Mum or Grandmother. Subsequently we have talked about the resurrection of Jesus and how this represented a new beginning for us all, we made and decorated butterflies to symbolise this. We have also heard about the parable of the seeds and made our own flower gardens out of tissue paper.

Although numbers are less than before we have regular attendees and we hope the numbers will grow again in time. A warm thank you to Fiona Stewart for accompanying us on the piano.

Junior Church will take place on 5th and 19th June, after which it will be school holidays. We plan to resume on a weekly basis after the summer holidays.

Ros & Shona



MIDWEEK FELLOWSHIP



The Wednesday Midweek Fellowship finally started back towards the end of March after a break of two years due to Covid. It was good to see people again



although some of the regular faces still, as in church on a Sunday, don't feel ready to join us yet. We look forward to seeing them again when we start back in September. It would be good if some new faces could join us. We begin about 10.30 for tea, coffee and chat and around 11 Stephen or one of the worship team lead a short informal act of worship.

At the end of the session we always disperse our offerings to the church and various charities. Because we had not met for two years and had not been able to give any of our money away we had £700 to disperse. Of this £300 went to church funds and the rest to the following charities.

£100 to St. Vincents Hospice

£100 to Action for Children Respite Unit (Loom Walk)

£100 to First Aid 4 Gambia

£100 to Edinburgh Direct Aid (Ukraine Appeal)



RENFREWSHIRE FOODBANK UPDATE

At a time when newspapers, television and radio constantly remind us of the challenges that currently face humanity including the effects of global warming, the war in Ukraine and more locally, the increasing costs of gas and electricity and the cost of living crisis. It is the latter that will directly impact us whether as individuals or as families. The choice between "heat or eat" is a one being faced by a growing number of families in the wider community and possibly our own village of Kilbarchan.

If you are a car owner you will be fully aware of the increase in fuel prices at the pump and you are possibly already making decisions about the frequency you use your car. But it will be as shoppers, and in particular, food shoppers that we will all be most impacted by increasing prices for the staples of our weekly and monthly shopping lists. We are all being forced to make changes in what we buy, when we buy and where we buy.

For most of us we are free to make these choices based on our own personal circumstances. However, for some in our society, this freedom we currently enjoy is not shared. For some the choice of last resort, if they feel they are struggling to put food on the table, will be to approach community agencies such as Citizens Advice, housing support officers, children's centres, health visitors' social services and local charities in order to receive a Foodbank Voucher.

The Foodbank is able to support the less fortunate in our community through the generosity of the wider community but as the wider community starts to experience increasing pressures on family budgets, choices will inevitably be made to make savings that could affect donations to the Foodbank. From conversations with Foodbank Volunteers they are already seeing a drop off in the level of donations from what they would normally expect.

If you feel you are able, I would ask you to continue your generous support of the Renfrewshire Foodbank and you can do this by bringing food donations to the church or by giving through direct debit, standing order or by cheque payable to 'Renfrewshire Foodbank' to PO Box 11360, Paisley, PA3 9FB, donating on-line using credit or debit card.

More information about donation can be found at www.renfrewshire.foodbank.org.uk.

The Church is planning to run a Coffee Morning in support of the Renfrewshire Foodbank in late August 2022 (date to be confirmed) so please watch out for details. All proceeds of the Coffee Morning will be presented to the Foodbank.

Current requirements for the emergency food parcels include:

Long Life Milk

Biscuits

Tinned Custard

Deodorant

Cleaning Products

Small Diluting Juice

Tinned Rice

Coffee

Shampoo

Plastic Bags

The Foodbank is well stocked with Soup and Pasta.

In the meantime I'd just like to thank everyone who supports the Foodbank with food or monetary donations or time and take this opportunity to wish you all a Super Sunny Summer.

Graham McKay



WHEN GOD SENDS YOU HELP DON'T ASK QUESTIONS

She hurried to the pharmacy to get medicine, got back to her car and found she had locked her keys inside. The woman found an old rusty coat hanger left on the ground. She looked at it and said, 'I don't know how to use this'. She bowed her head and asked God to send her some HELP.

Within five minutes a beaten up old motor cycle pulled up, driven by a bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag. He got off his cycle and asked if he could help. She said, 'Yes, my daughter is sick. I've locked my keys in my car and I must get home. Please can you use this hanger to unlock my car?'

He said, 'Sure'. He walked over to the car and in a minute the car was open. She hugged the man through tears and said, 'Thank you God for sending me such a very nice man'. The man heard her little prayer and replied, 'Lady I am NOT a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday; I was in prison for car theft'.

The woman hugged the man again sobbing, 'Oh thank you God! You even sent me a professional!'

Is GOD great or what?

CALL TO GOD

An Englishman decided to write a book about famous churches around the world. For his first chapter he decided to write about British churches so he bought a train ticket and took a trip to London, thinking that he would work his way up the country from South to North.

On his first day he was inside a church, taking photographs, when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read, "£20,000 per call!"

The Englishman, being intrigued, asked a priest who was strolling by what the telephone was used for. The priest replied that it was a direct line to heaven and for £20,000 you could talk to God. The Englishman thanked the priest and went on his way. His next stop was in Northampton.

There, at a very large church, he saw the same golden telephone with the same sign under it.

He wondered if this was the same kind of telephone he had seen in London so he asked a nearby nun what its purpose was. She told him that it was a direct line to heaven and that for £20,000 he could talk to God.

"Thank you," said the Englishman.

He then travelled to Coventry, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Blackpool, Lancaster and Carlisle.

In every church he saw the same golden telephone with the same "£20,000 per call" sign under it.

The Englishman, upon realising how close he was to the Scottish border, decided to see if the Scots had the same phone.

He crossed the border and came to a small town called Gretna, and again, there was the same golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read, "20 pence per call".

The Englishman was surprised so he asked the priest about the sign.

"Father, I have travelled all over England and I have seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told it is a direct line to heaven, but in every one the price was £20,000 per call. Why is it so cheap here?"

The priest smiled and answered, "Well laddie, you're in Scotland now, it's a local call."

A member of the congregation has written this prayer. Perhaps if any other member writes prayers or short poems they wish to share please contact Stephen.

A Prayer

MAY WE

In this time of reawakening

Be still

Still to divine what is heartfelt in our neighbours.

Be opened

Opened to meet each other again

Be humble

Be humble and ask for guidance in our ways

Be thankful

Thankful that so many share so much with us

Be feeling

Be feeling in the face of others' loss

Calling out

Calling out to our own and others' lost spirit

Be welcoming

Be welcoming to all as we have so much more in common than not

Be rejoined

Rejoined as we have so much more in common than not.

May we enfold

Each other

Enfold each other with the gentling arms of community and love

And be joyous

God

Joyous for all that remains around us.

May we.

Amen

PARISH REGISTER



Elder admitted to the Kirk Session

Isobel Arnott

MARRIAGE

'What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder'

30th April 2022 Caroline Craig and Graeme Wright (Coats Memorial Venue)

BAPTISM

'Suffer little children to come unto me'

10th April 2022 Evan Mark Wilkie, son of Fiona and Mark
22nd May 2022 Miley Kapaya, daughter of Rebecca and John

DEATHS

'In my father's house there are many mansions'

19 /02/2022 Pandy Courtenay
07/03/2022 Jane Jacobson
22/03/2022 Irene Rowan
03/04/2022 Les McLaughlin
13/04/2022 Catherine McDerment
25/04/2022 Rena Young

ROLL

The Roll of Kilbarchan Parish Church now stands at 368 and 18 Adherents.

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister - Rev Stephen Smith - 01505 702621

Joint Session Clerk - Mrs Christine Erwin - 01505 703056

Joint Session Clerk - Mr Alasdair Law - 07805 918 509

Ass. Session Clerk - Miss Helen Robertson - 01505 325382

Clerk to Congregational Board - Mrs Gwen Howden - 01505 704308

WORSHIP PROGRAMME

Sunday 5 th June	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 12 th June	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 19 th June	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 26 th June	11am	Morning Worship including Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sunday 3 rd July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 10 th July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 17 th July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 24 th July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 31 st July	11am	Mornin worship
Sunday 7 th August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 14 th August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 21 st August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 28 th August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 4 th September	11am	Morning worship

